Towards a large sized Axiom SNP array for the allo-octoploid strawberry


(1)USDA-ARS, NCGR, Corvallis, Oregon, USA
(2)IFAPA-Centro de Churriana, Málaga, Spain
(3)Affymetrix, Santa Clara California, USA
(4)Affymetrix UK Ltd, Wooburn Green, High Wycombe, UK
(5)University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire, USA
(6)INRA, Bordeaux, France
(7)Wageningen-UR Plant Breeding, Wageningen, The Netherlands
(8)Washington State University, Pullman, Washington, USA
(9)Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, USA
(10)IRTA-CRAG, Barcelona, Spain
(11)Research and Innovation Centre – Fondazione Edmund Mach, S. Michele all’Adige, Trento, Italy
(12)Wageningen-UR Plant Breeding, Wageningen, The Netherlands

A central goal of the RosBREED consortium has been to establish SNP arrays for peach, cherry, apple, and strawberry, to facilitate QTL discovery and marker-assisted breeding. This goal has been advanced by the release of three Illumina® Infinium® arrays for apple, peach, and cherry (8K, 9K and 6K, respectively). Here, we report on the development of a 90K Strawberry Affymetrix Axiom® genotyping array. The cultivated strawberry is an allo-octoploid. This level and type of ploidy creates challenges to overcome, which we address in several ways. First, the large size of the array permits success despite a lower conversion rate of candidate to functional SNPs than for diploid crops. Second, we exploit site-specific, biological reductions in ploidy resulting from subgenome-specific deletions. Third, we exploit designed reductions in ploidy by targeting probes to sites of subgenome-specific sequence motifs. Fourth, we include SNPs and/or probes specific to one sub-genome.

We are using a diverse germplasm discovery panel of 19 octoploids. The array will target several polymorphism types, including indels and di- and multi-allelic SNPs. Here we describe our approaches to reduce the effective ploidy level so as to choose subgenome-specific SNPs. We also report on a new bioinformatics pipeline, which includes local re-alignment around indels and polymorphism type-specific filtering strategies. Production of the array starts in September 2012 and it will become commercially available.